ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Kodiak Area Office

351 Research Court

Kodiak, AK. 99615

Contact:
James Jackson, Area Biologist
Geoff Spalinger, Asst. Area Biologist
Matt Keyse, Asst. Area Biologist
Brad Fuerst, Fishery Biologist
Phone: (907) 486-1830

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KODIAK COMMERCIAL HERRING SAC ROE FISHERY NEWS RELEASE # 20 For Emergency Orders #4-FH-K-20-13, 4-FH-K-21-13, and 4-FH-K-22-13

Commercial herring fishing <u>opened</u> for purse seine gear in that portion of the **Danger Bay** Section (SA40) north of 58° 10.00' N. lat. and east of 152° 34.60' W. long. from 6:40 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. Saturday, May 4.

Commercial herring fishing for purse seine gear was <u>extended</u> in that portion of the **Danger Bay** Section (SA40) north of 58° 10.00' N. lat. and east of 152° 34.60' W. long from 7:40 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, May 4.

Commercial herring fishing for purse seine gear in the **Danger Bay Section (SA40)** closed at **8:35 p.m. Saturday, May 4**. The **Danger Bay Section (SA40)** will remain closed to purse seine gear for the remainder of the 2013 season.

The R/V K-Hi-C will be transitioning to the Village Islands/Uganik bays sections (UG30 and UG32-34). Test fishing for purse seine gear in the Village Islands/Uganik bays sections (UG30 and UG32-34) could begin as early as 9:00 a.m. Monday May 6.

As Previously Announced:

The following areas are <u>open</u> to **both seine** and **gillnet gear** for commercial herring sac roe fishing.

Afognak Districts:	GHL	Alitak District:	GHL	Eastside District:	GHL
(NA50) Tonki Bay	40	(AL20) Inner Alitak	75	(EA21) Three Saints Bay	75
(SA10-30) Izhut, Kitoi,		(AL21, 22) Inner and Outer		(EA23) West Sitkalidak	300
and MacDonalds Lagoon	125	Deadman bays	300	(EA24) Barling Bay	125
_		(AL30) Sulua Bay	75	(EA30) East Sitkalidak	300
Uganik District:		(AL40) Lower Olga-Moser	50	(EA51) Inner Ugak	200
(UG20) Viekoda Bay	25	(AL41) East Upper Olga Bay	50		
(UG21) Terror Bay	30	(AL50)West Upper Olga Bay	50		
(UG31)W.Uganik	50				
Passage					

Purse seine fishing periods will be **noon to 9:00 p.m. on odd-numbered days**, **and 9:00 a.m.** to **noon on even-numbered days**, followed by a 24 hour closed period.

Fishing periods for gillnet gear will remain open until further notice.

The following areas will open or remain open to <u>only</u> gillnet gear until further notice:

Afognak Districts:	GHL	Uganik District:	<u>GHL</u>	Eastside District:	GHL
(WA10) Raspberry Strait	10	(UG30) Village Islands	350	(EA42) Shearwater Bay	100
(WA20) Malina Bay	10	(UG32) NE Arm Uganik		(EA44) Inner Kiliuda Bay	75
(NA30) Perenosa Bay	10	(UG33) East Arm Uganik			
(SA40) Danger Bay		(UG34) South Arm Uganik			
Northeast District:					
(NE20) Kalsin Bay	15				
Inner Marmot District:					
(IM20) Anton Larsen	15				
(IM30) Sharatin Bay	30				

Beginning May 1, all Kodiak commercial sac roe herring fishermen that wish to continue fishing after April 30 must be registered with the department. Registration began on April 25 and may be accomplished either in the Kodiak fish and game office, or with fish and game personnel when available in the field. Communication is critical to effectively manage the commercial herring fishery. Herring fishermen will need to contact the department prior to fishing in an area and when herring are harvested. Failure to do so will result in area closures.

The current estimate of the total harvested herring in the Kodiak Management Area is approximately 3,300 tons.

The following areas are closed to commercial herring fishing for the remainder of the season:

- The Outer Kiliuda and Outer Ugak Bay sections of the Eastside District, and the Kizhuyak Bay Section of the Inner Marmot District.

PURSE SEINE GEAR (DELAYED OPENINING) AREAS

The following section will also open to purse seine gear, but the initial purse seine fishing period will be delayed. There will be 24 hour advance notice prior to opening this area:

Northeast District: GHL (NE10) Womens Bay 50

EXPLORATORY AREAS

The following sections are designated as EXPLORATORY, and opened to either gear type, with differential fishing periods by gear type as outlined above for purse seine or gillnet gear:

Afognak Districts:	Alitak District:	Eastside District:
(WA20) Delphin Bay	(AL60) Geese/Two Headed	(EA10) Kaiugnak Bay
(WA40) Bluefox Bay		(EA20) SW Sitkalidak
		(EA22) Newman Bay
		(EA31) Tanginak Anchorage

Mainland Districts:

(NM20) Inner Kukak Bay(MM40) Puale Bay(MM10) Inner Katmai Bay(MM50) Portage Bay(MM30) Alinchak Bay(SM10) Wide Bay

The remainder of the Kodiak Area will stay closed to commercial herring fishing for the entire sac roe season.

Guideline harvest levels and maps of open sections and gear assignments are available at the Kodiak office and in the herring sac roe fishery harvest strategy for the 2013 season. Fishermen are urged to check with their market and test their catch prior to landing herring. Determining if size or roe quality meets processor standards is the responsibility of fishermen and industry. It is anticipated that many small and green fish will be present on the grounds during the initial open fishing periods. Recent fishery information may be obtained by calling the Departments 24-hour record-a-phone at 486-4559.